

Appl. No. 10/521,229  
Reply to Office Action of October 3, 2005

Amendments to the Specification:

Page 4, replace the paragraph under formula (1) with the following amended paragraph:

wherein R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> are each -CN, -COR<sub>5</sub>, COOR<sub>6</sub> [[-COOR]] or -CONR<sub>7</sub>R<sub>8</sub>; R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> are each a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, a cycloalkyl group, an aryl group or a heterocyclic group; L<sub>1</sub>, L<sub>2</sub> and L<sub>3</sub> are each a methine group and k is 2, provided that the respective -L<sub>2</sub>=L<sub>3</sub>- may be the same or different; R<sub>5</sub> and R<sub>6</sub> are each a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group or an aryl group; R<sub>7</sub> and R<sub>8</sub> are each a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, an alkenyl group, an aryl group or a heterocyclic group or R<sub>7</sub> and R<sub>8</sub> may combine with an adjacent nitrogen atom to form a 5- or 6-membered ring, provided that R<sub>7</sub> and R<sub>8</sub> are not hydrogen atoms at the same time and at least one of R<sub>1</sub>, R<sub>2</sub>, R<sub>3</sub> and R<sub>4</sub> is a water-solubilizing group or a group containing a water-solubilizing group.